

MINNESOTA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT **TOOLBOX**



NO MATTER THE STAGE, WE'VE GOT THE RIGHT TOOLS AND EXPERTISE TO HELP YOUR BUSINESS START STRONG AND STAY STRONG.

- **Get Help From Our Experts** – It is no small feat to start, manage or expand a small business. Without the right information and professional guidance at the right time, you risk needless headaches.
- **Small Business Assistance Office** – Provides in-depth consultation and a comprehensive series of business guidebooks.
- **Small Business Development Centers** – Nine centers statewide provide the expertise and guidance small businesses need to flourish.
- **Locating in Minnesota** – Economy. Industry. Workforce. Incentives. See why Minnesota is the best place for your business expansion or relocation.
- **Export and Trade Consultants** – Technical assistance and education for new and experienced exporters.
- **STEP Grant Program** – STEP program provides up to \$7,500 to qualifying Minnesota companies for export activities.
- **Finding Workers** – Post job openings and screen candidates online. Hiring incentives and tax credits. Get help assessing workforce needs.
- **Labor Market Data and Analysis** – Get the latest state and regional labor market intelligence, economic conditions and trends.
- **Financing a Business State, federal and other business-financing programs.** Finance guidance to help you startup, operate or expand your business.
- **Minnesota Investment Fund** – Financing targets job creation in industrial, manufacturing and high-tech industries.
- **Minnesota Job Creation Fund** – Provides up to \$1 million after specified job creation and capital investment goals are achieved.
- **State Small Business Credit Initiative** – Programs to help creditworthy companies get access to capital they need to grow.
- **Urban Initiative Loan Program** – Supports the growth of minority-owned businesses and creates jobs in economically distressed areas of the Twin Cities.
- **Indian Business Loan Program** – Supports Indian-owned businesses and promotes economic opportunities for Indian people statewide.
- **Small Business Development Loan Program** – Provides financing for business expansions that result in the creation of new jobs.
- **Minnesota Reservist and Veteran Business Loan Program** – For companies with employees called to active duty and veterans returning from active duty.
- **Minnesota Minerals 21st Century Fund** – Provides loans to or makes equity investments in innovative mineral processing facilities.
- **Angel Tax Credit Program** – Provides incentives to invest in startup and emerging companies focused on high technology.
- **Greater Minnesota Expansion Tax Credits** – Sales tax refund for up to 12 years to existing businesses expanding in Greater Minnesota.
- **R&D Tax Credit Program** – Doubles the size of the credit and also expands to include more business entities.

Continued on Pg. 2 ➤

■ **Minnesota Job Skills Partnership** – Training grants are used to offset training-related expenses incurred by business, industry and educational institutions necessary to meet current and future workforce needs.

■ **Data Center Tax Exemption** – Special incentives attract data and network operation centers in Minnesota.

■ **Community Development Funding** – These programs focus on projects to preserve or improve community vitality and economic growth, including residential and commercial redevelopment.

■ **Infrastructure Funding** – Financing programs for basic infrastructure, including drinking water, wastewater treatment, roads, housing and other public facilities, transportation, economic development, innovative infrastructure, Greater Business Development Public Infrastructure grants.

■ **Cleanup, Redevelopment & Transit** – Redeveloping contaminated and blighted properties is essential for communities to stay vital and in the best position to grow.

■ **SBA Business Financing Programs** – The Small Business Administration has financial assistance programs that provide access to debt and equity primarily from banks or other private sources.

■ **Rural Development Financing** – The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development Office has loan, loan guarantee and grant programs.

■ **City, County and Regional Funding** – Local governmental units at different levels are currently providing some form of assistance to entrepreneurs.



OTHER PROGRAMS AND TOOLS AVAILABLE...

■ **Minnesota Marketing Partnership** – Public entities and private firms working together to promote Minnesota's business climate.

■ **Made in Minnesota** – A Manufacturers Supply Chain Database makes it easy for Minnesota companies to find -- and be found by -- home-state suppliers that are a perfect fit.

■ **Minnesota Business First Stop** – Minnesota Business First Stop streamlines the development process for complex business startups, expansions or relocations that involve financing, licensing, permitting, and regulatory issues that overlap multiple state agencies.

■ **Shovel Ready** – Key legal, technical and regulatory tasks of developing these sites are already complete.

